

## March 2002 Injury Prevention Newsletter

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### **Alaska News & Resources**

1. Coming in June: Alaska's Injury Prevention Introductory Course
2. A Reminder About Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs)
3. Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA) News

### **National News & Resources**

4. First Annual State Injury Indicators Report Released
5. Scooters & Skateboards
6. New Safety Seal

### **Miscellaneous**

7. Websites for Injury Prevention Resources
  8. Product Recalls and Safety Information
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**1. Alaska's Injury Prevention Introductory Course** will be held in Anchorage, June 24-27, 2002. Covering such topics as: Injury as a Public Health Problem, Injury Prevention Intervention Theory, Evaluation, and Alaska's Injury Prevention Resources and Programs, the course is designed for a variety of injury prevention professionals, as well as other healthcare workers that serve young Alaskan clients and their parents, such as public health nurses, Healthy Families, Alaska SafeKids, Community Health Aides, and Emergency Medical Services personnel. For more information call Zoann Murphy at (907) 465-1185 or online:

[www.chems.alaska.gov/ems\\_injury\\_prevention.htm](http://www.chems.alaska.gov/ems_injury_prevention.htm)

**2. PFD Reminder.** Effective March 29, 2002, all children under age 13 aboard recreational vessels must wear personal floatation devices or life jackets, except when they are below decks or in an enclosed structure. This is a Federal Regulation (67 FR 8881), and will enable the Coast Guard to enforce PFD wear requirements. For more information, contact Sue Hargis, 17<sup>th</sup> District Boating Safety Coordinator, [shargis@cgalaska.uscg.mil](mailto:shargis@cgalaska.uscg.mil), (907) 463-2297.

**3. AMSEA News.** Marine Survival Training is available from AMSEA: low cost and local. AMSEA will set up an Onboard Drill Instructor course in any port in Alaska that has at least six fishermen committed to attend and will even offer scholarships to help defray the costs. AMSEA will also be offering a Marine Survival Workshop series in Sitka on April 11, 2002, as part of the Southeast Region EMS Symposium. AMSEA is asking for Fishing Vessel Safety Tips – and will pay \$50 for every tip they can use! For more information on AMSEA's activities, call (907) 747-3287, email [amsea@alaska.com](mailto:amsea@alaska.com), or check out their website [www.amsea.org](http://www.amsea.org)

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**4. First Annual State Injury Indicators Report Released.** CDC's Injury Center, the State and Territorial Injury Prevention Directors' Association (STIPDA), and the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists have produced the first *State Injury Indicators Report*. This report presents data gathered by 12 states that participated in a new program to track and monitor injuries and related factors.

**5. Scooters & Skateboards.** <http://www.cpsc.gov/CPSCPUB/PUBS/5026.pdf> shows the new American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines for scooter and skateboard riders.

**6. US Consumer Group Introduces New Safety Seal.** Safer America for Everyone (SAFE) has launched a new seal that will help consumers identify companies committed to selling safe products. Qualifying companies – not individual products – will be able to use SAFE's seal in their marketing and advertising materials. SAFE will monitor the company's efforts to educate consumers about product safety, perform safety testing, and respond swiftly to consumer complaints or product recalls. [www.saferam.org](http://www.saferam.org)

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### **7. Websites for Injury Prevention Resources**

- A. A listing of all Injury-Related 2002 Health Observances can be found at [www.cdc.gov/ncipc/injobsrv.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/injobsrv.htm). April's list is quite extensive, including Alcohol Awareness Month, National Youth Sports Safety Month, Sports Eye Safety Month, and the National Program for Playground Safety Week.
  - B. The National SAFE KIDS website has lots of resources available for Injury Prevention. [www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org)
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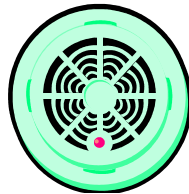
## 8. Product Recalls and Safety Information

**A. Lawn Mowers and Gas Barbecues Recall Season Has Arrived.** The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's hotline at 800-638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at 800-638-8270. [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) has lists of recalled items. Check it out!

**B. Put Safety First in Your Spring Cleaning.** If longer days and warmer temperatures have you headed for the cleaning supplies, take a minute to read the labels! The Soap and Detergent Association has a wonderful set of suggestions for staying safe while cleaning: [www.cleaning101.com/health/safe/](http://www.cleaning101.com/health/safe/)

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**Think Spring - Think Safety - Think Smoke Alarm Batteries!**



When you change your clocks to Daylight Savings Time on April 7<sup>th</sup>, don't forget to check and replace your smoke alarm batteries.

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This newsletter has been compiled by the Section of Community Health & EMS (CHEMS), Alaska Division of Public Health and sent to subscribers of the AK-Prev and AHELP list-serves. It has also been sent as a 'bcc' to others in Alaska including Public Health Centers, SAFE KIDS coalitions, Native Health organizations, and regional EMS Councils and Coordinators who may be interested and active in injury prevention and health promotion. The purpose is to share resources, breaking news, training opportunities, product recalls, and opinions to help prevent injuries to Alaskans. Feedback and contributions are encouraged. Contributions can be directed to Karen Lawfer, (907) 465-8632, [karen\\_lawfer@health.state.ak.us](mailto:karen_lawfer@health.state.ak.us)